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TRIAL

OF

Jonathan Syntax,

FOR THE

MURDER!!?

OF THE

"KING'S ENGLISH."

BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT ON LINGUIST'S. HELD AUGUST, 1ST. 1835. REPORTED FOR THE KING, BY DR. QUACKENBERGIUS, REPORTER TO HIS MAJESTY ANDREW THE FIRST.

SCATTER & SQUABBLE,

PRINTERS.—*NEW YORK.*

1835.

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TRIAL.

THIS notorious and somewhat singular case which has called forth so large a share of public attention, and excited the curiosity of the Wiseacres of the age, was brought before the General Supreme Court of Linguists, held August, 1st. 1826; Justice Tunbelly of Shoulderdale, presiding, assisted on the one hand by Squire Technical, of Technical Hall, and on the other, by Squire Wordy, of Silence Court.

The following gentlemen, were called forth by the Clerk of the Court and sworn as,

JURY.

Recordat Prosedy,	Dr. Orthorgraphius,
Menes Adjectatum,	Olympius Adverbius,
Dr. Conjunctatium,	Nuntius Verbal,
Fides Interjection,	Horat Omnes,
Mundat Etymologibus	Pedant Grammatic,
Dea. Syllogism,	Quibus G. Leges,

These gentlemen having been formally sworn the prosecuting Attorney, Acumen Farintosh, a gentleman of vast legal acquirements, and generally acknowledged to be the "*deepest red*" lawyer, in the Universe, opened the case on the part of the King, by reading the

INDICTMENT.

Whereas, you Jonathan Syntax, *alias*, Jawslobberer, *alias*, Bigwordy, *alias*, Wordmanufacturer, being of a wicked, malicious, seditious and murderous disposition, and having from time immemmorial, down to the present date been notoriously known and acknowledged at divers times and places, too tedious to mention and more particularly at a certain political meeting, to have indulged in your wicked, seditious, malicious and murderous disposition in foully abusing, mangling, wrangling, twisting, despoiling and murdering his Majesty's King Andrew's the First, most loyal and generous subjects the "King's English," at divers times and places as aforesaid, contrary to

the State and Constitution of this Country, to the evil and pernicious example of others in like cases offending;—and contrary to the laws made and provided in such cases, &c. &c.

As we have not room to give the Report in full, we will merely remark that an immense number of witnesses were examined and with an overflowing affection of our lacrymatic organs, do we mournfully state that the testimony against him was overwhelming. The deportment of the prisoner who was an exceedingly tall and comical looking person, was such as might have been expected of one in his truly *awful* situation, standing as it were on the very brink of time,—and in imminent danger of rushing into eternity with such a load of guilt on his head. The witnesses having been examined, the case was very ably argued by Affadavit Cau[illegible]s and Thisside Uppermost, for the Defendant, Acumen Farintosh and Solomon Guzzle, on the part of the King, these gentlemen having closed their arguments, the prisoner in a most energetic, vehement and eloquent manner, addressed the Jury in his

DEFENCE.

Gentlemen of the Jury.—I was completely *desecrated* with surprise,—I was overwhelmed with *infusion*,—my *epicastigate* regions were seized with a sudden sinking and I concluded that the very *oracles* of my heart had sprung their *remain* stays, when Constable Goslin, drove me from my *co-habitation* and *reined* me before this Court by a *rit* of *hoccus pokus*; but !—Yes, Gentlemen of the Jury, I was completely *desecrated* with astonishment, but not more so, than when I afterwards heard that the storm had torn off the *portege* of my house *contagious* to it, my office taken from me and a *prostitute* provided, these *misfortunate decurrencies* droved me to *detraction* till I tho't I should go off like a troopers horse—all standnig ! !—I didn't no what to think on't when it *incurred* to me that it was done by some of the *monied eristokracy* because they feared my *confluence* in pulling down that ingredious corrupt hyder monster of a bank, when there ought never to have been a bank in all *oblivion*, they are one of the greatest *cusses*

ever *curtailed* on the human race, and they were joined by the clergy because I *reclaimed* against their *wholesale and retail religion shops* and their long Sunday faces, long enough to reach from here to *——, and back again!! but I'll fix 'em I'll let 'em know that I'll, I'll I'll I'll! * *

[Here the prisoner spoke so vehemently that he was forced to discontinue through mere exhaustion, and the feelings of the Court and audience were raised to such a height by this eloquent, soul-stirring address that many, especially the female part of the audience melted into tears, which were only relieved by the Charge to the Jury.

JUDGE TUNBELLY'S CHARGE.

Gentlemen of the Jury.—The many learned observations, which have been made on this

* What the locality of the place was, mentioned by the prisoner it is not difficult to guess,—but the Reporter being somewhat inclined to Universalism has for reasons unknown seen fit to withold it.—*Note by the Devil.*

truly most important unprecedented case, *hem*, by the gentlemen of the bar, have greatly lightened the task, which is incumbent on persons holding the high, dignified and responsible station which I, the people's most humble devoted servant have the distinguished honor of possessing, *hem*,—but, nevertheless, I will make a few remarks, then leaving the case to the decision of your own unprejudiced judgments, *hem*!—The Indictment affirms, that the prisoner, Jonathan Syntax, *alias*, Wordmangler, *alias*, Jawslobberer, *alias*, Bigwordy, *alias*, Wordmanufacturer, being of a wicked, malicious, seditious and murderous disposition, with malice aforethought and prepense, at divers times and places too tedious to mention, did foully murder his Majesty's most loyal and generous subjects the "King's English," *hem* !—from the vast number of witnesses examined before your honors, it appears that death has frequently been occasioned by the Prisoner,—but your honors will plainly perceive that in order to prove murder "*de legem*" *malice aforethought and prepense must be proved*, but far otherwise

with the prisoner, he appears to have been wholly unconscious of the murder at the time of committal, consequently it could not have been murder, but simply MANSLAUGHTER *of the* "*King's English*," "de hæc non est disputandem" *hem!*—without farther comment I now leave this highly important case in your hands, fully convinced that both law and justice will be rendered to the unfortunate individual now before you.

The Jury to the surprise of the whole Court without leaving their seats returned a verdict of

MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE.

Judge Tunbelly then pronounced the

SENTENCE.

Whereas, you Jonathan Syntax, *alias*, Wordmangler, *alias*, Bigwordy, *alias*, Word-manufacturer, having been found guilty of the high and awful crime of murder, by an honest jury of twelve of your unprejudiced fellow citizens, receive the sentence of the Court!—You are to be taken from hence to the place of

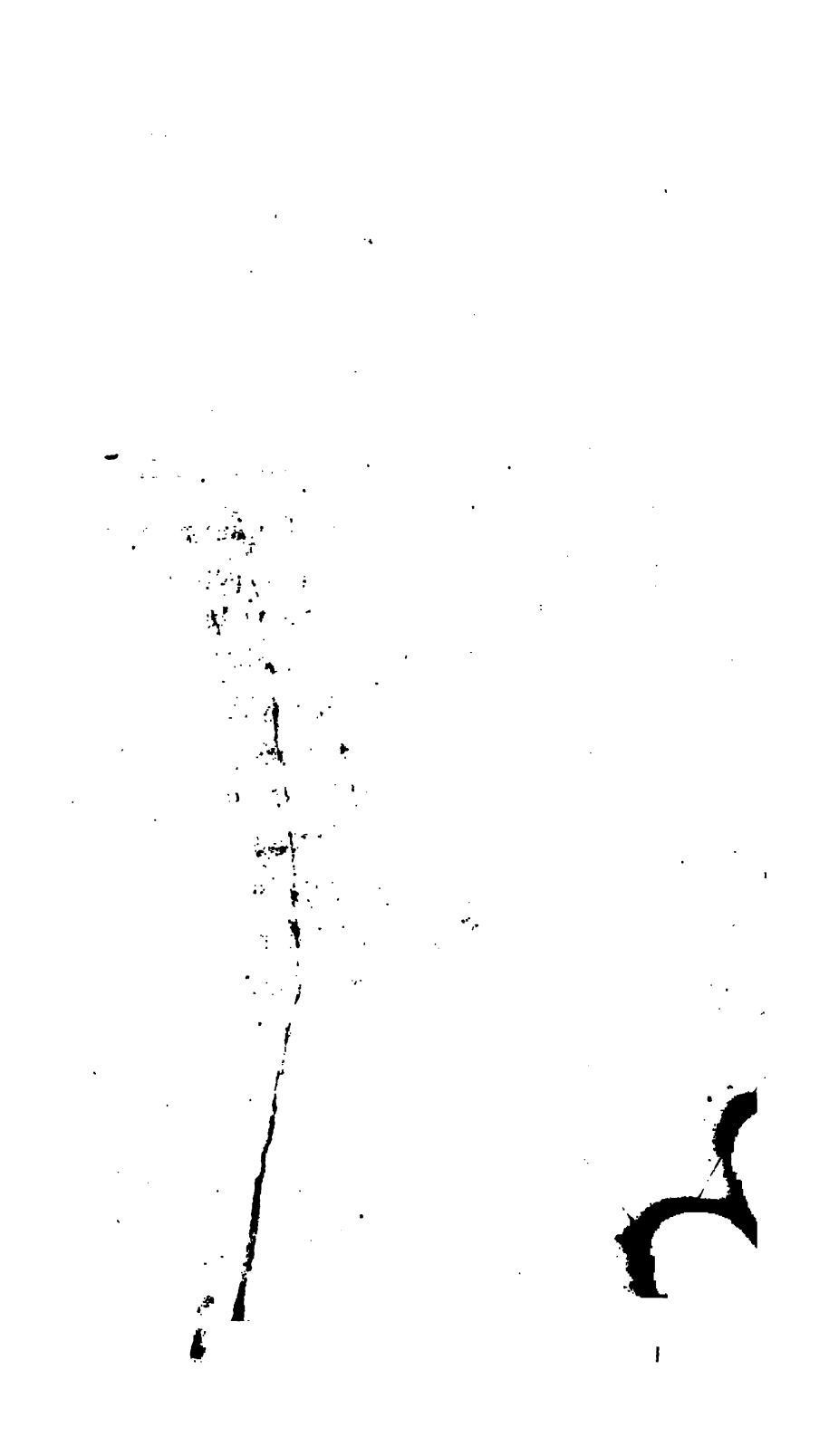
execution and between the hours of twelve and one, P. M. you are to be hanged with a rope around the the neck until you are dead,—So may the Lord have mercy on your soul!!!!

B U T

Hem!—in consideration of your vast services to your country, *hem!* in aiding to pull down that monster of a bank *hem!* in exclaiming against the corruptions, of the clergy, with their "wholesale and retail religion shops" *hem*, and in consideration of your vast services to "*the* porty" and conceiving your death to be a death-blow to all future meetings of "*the* democracy," we are compelled to give you a full free and implicit ***PARDON!!!!!?***

The Court then adjourned without proceeding any further, And Syntax to make new speeches, and to commit *fresh MURDER!!!*

FINIS.



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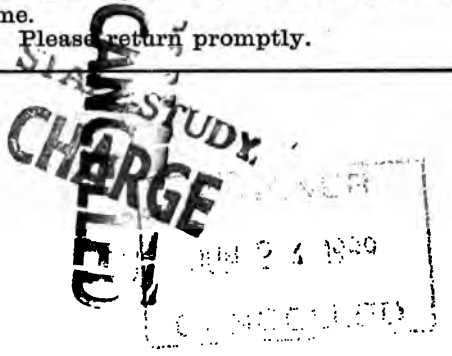

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